

I/WE CLAIM:

1. An ion-assisted electron beam evaporation process, the process comprising the steps of:

- positioning multiple high yield fixtures in an array;
- 5 adjusting a vertical position of each of the fixtures to compensate for variations in deposition rate versus chamber location;
- providing two electron guns;
- mounting the guns to a movable track;
- positioning the first gun at a source deposition location;
- 10 rotating the fixtures at greater than 2400 rpm;
- performing ion assisted evaporation with the first gun, the second gun being kept in a stand-by location in pre-heat mode;
- ceasing deposition prior to achieving target thickness;
- shuttering each of the fixtures at different times;
- 15 independently reopening the fixtures to a low rate pulsed deposition to achieve the target thickness;
- closing clam shutters on the fixtures;
- moving the first gun to a stand-by position;
- moving the second gun to the source deposition location;
- 20 sampling evaporation with a quartz crystal thickness monitor;
- opening a shutter on the second gun;
- performing ion assisted evaporation with the second gun, the first gun being kept in a stand-by location in pre-heat mode;
- ceasing deposition prior to achieving target thickness;
- 25 shuttering each of the fixtures at different times;
- independently reopening the fixtures to a low rate pulsed deposition to achieve the target thickness;
- closing clam shutters on the fixtures; and,
- repeating the process until desired filter is obtained.

2. A method for producing an optical filter utilizing line-of-sight deposition, the method comprising the steps of:

providing multiple substrates;
providing a fixed ion source;
5 providing at least one selectively movable evaporator;
positioning the at least one evaporator at a source deposition location; and,
depositing material onto the substrates.

10 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the method further comprises the step of:
shuttering the substrates as necessary to ensure uniform deposition on the substrates.

15 4. The method of claim 3, where in the method further comprises the step of:
rotating the substrates at approximately greater than 500 revolutions per minute.

20 5. The method of claim 4, wherein shuttering the substrates as necessary to ensure uniform deposition on the substrates comprises the steps of:
ceasing deposition of a layer prior to achieving target thickness;
shuttering the substrates at different times;
independently unshuttering the substrates; and,
achieving the target thickness.

25 6. The method of claim 2, wherein the at least one evaporator is at least two selectively movable evaporators, the method further comprising the steps of:
moving the first evaporator to a stand-by position;
opening a shutter on the second evaporator;
30 positioning the second evaporator at the source deposition location; and,
performing ion assisted evaporation with the second evaporator.

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ceasing deposition of a layer prior to achieving target thickness;
shuttering the substrates at different times;
5 independently unshuttering the substrates; and,
achieving the target thickness.

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11. A system for producing optical filters, the system comprising:
multiple substrates;
an ion source;
at least two selectively movable evaporators; and,
a source deposition location.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the system further comprises:
shuttering means for shuttering the substrates; and,

